

# • C o u n t e r p o i s e •

## The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

Volume XLVIII

March 2008

Number 3



Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon meets every 2nd Thursday at 7:00 pm at the First Lutheran Church of El Cajon. The address is 867 South Lincoln Ave. Next meeting:

March 13, 2008 7:00 pm

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All Official written communication is to be submitted to:

A.R.C.E.C. P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

The Counterpoise is a publication of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). It is published once monthly and contributions are accepted from officers and members of the club. We also encourage input from members of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon. Opinions expressed are solely that of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). Articles may be submitted either by e-mail or mail to the editor.

Paul Rios at:

WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net or by post  
1237 Victor Ave #4, El Cajon, CA 92021

The Deadline is Sunday after the General Meeting.

Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

Web Site: <http://www.wa6bgs.org>

Counterpoise E-Mail address

WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net

### Bob W6RHV Installing The CAL Fire Antennas!



Speaker: Ed AI6O and Dan N6ERD  
Topic: PKS

## 2008 Officers

President	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Vice-President	KO4QT	Steve Weed	733-2320
Secretary	N6ERD	Dan Severance	449-8526
Treasurer	KG6JCW	Mike "Stogie" Panger	263-4439

## 2008 Board of Directors

Affiliated Clubs	AE6AV	Larry Plummer	460-1818
Instructor	AE6QW	Gordon Shackelford	561-6323
Membership	KC6TBG	Ann Rios	593-9445
Net Manager	KG6TDP	Mike Oberbauer	444-9090
Public Service	N6NKJ	Rich Beisigl	444-5465
	KF6KE	Richard West	462-2771

## 2008 Standing Committees

Bylaws	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Club Attire	K6PKS	Paul Schmidt	733-2284
Counterpoise Editor	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Education	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Elmer	WA6L	John Graf	368-7413
EOC H2O District	N6NKJ	Rich Beisigl	444-5465
Estate Sales	N6JOJ	Tom Myrick	449-3547
Field Day	KO4QT	Steve Weed	733-2320
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Historian	OPEN		
Photographer	KI6EEL	Bridget Rios	
Post Mistress	KC6TBG	Ann Rios	593-9445
Prizes	AF6BC	Floyd Lang	697-8655
Public Relations	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
SANDARC Delegate	K5WFW	Len Fulbright	258-1322
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Technical	W6RHH	Bob Boehme	448-4728
Ticket Lady	KI6EEK	Lisie Rios	
WA6BGS Trustee	AE6CQ	Michael Martak	562-6477
WAMO	AE6CQ	Michael Martak	562-6477
Web Master	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Welcome	KI6JUD	Linda Weed	971-1535
Social Chair	KI6JUD	Linda Weed	971-1535

## Staff and Writers

KC6QLS	Paul	Editor
KO4QT	Steve	Vice President
N6ERD	Dan	Meeting Minutes
KI6FIH	Tassy	HAM Spot Light
AE6CQ	Michael	WAMO
W5COM	Tom & Lisie	Jokes
N6NKJ	Rich	Amateur Radio at Large
WA6L	John	Down Below in EC
WA6MHZ	Pat	Crest Radio Museum
KI6EEL	Bridget	Photos

### SANTEE DRIVE-IN SWAP MEET

10990 Woodside Ave., North  
FOR INFORMATION, CALL 449-SWAP  
Ham Radio, Computers, Electronics  
ACRES & ACRES OF BARGAINS  
1st & 3rd Saturday of the Month  
GATES OPEN 6:30 AM

## From The President

**Paul KC6QLS**



You will find on page 3 in this Counterpoise the purposed By Law change to reinstate all Club dues back to December 31<sup>st</sup>. This is the way it was when the club was first formed, and with the Counterpoise going online, it will make it easier to keep track of the general membership status. If all goes well, it is our goal to reinstate the Early Bird Registration Drawing. The Early Bird Registration Drawing is a way for members to renew their membership early and have a chance to get a prize at the annual Christmas Dinner. It also helps with the following years budget by knowing how many paid members we have paid.

This was the first reading, and due to our By Laws, it has to be printed in the Counterpoise. At the March meeting we can vote on it if we have no changes. If we change anything, we have to repeat the steps again.

How does this affect me as a club member? This year, 2008, will be prorated to December 31, 2008. For example, if your dues are due in June, in June you would pay for six months which would pay you through December 31, 2008, and make your 2009 dues due on December 31, 2008. Now you are on track. So, essentially club members will be paying on December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year for the following year's dues.

New members will be prorated from the month they join through December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year they join, and then their renewal would be due on December 31<sup>st</sup> for the following year. For example, if you join in March, you pay for the remaining nine months through December 31<sup>st</sup> of the joining year, add \$5.00 for your badge, and the next years due would be due on December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year you join. I believe after we return to the way it was when the club first started, it will be easier for club members to keep track of when their membership renewal is due and also much easier to plan the budget for the following year.

73

Paul KC6QLS

## Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

General Membership Meeting  
14 February 2008



The meeting was called to order by Paul, KC6QLS.

Visitors were welcomed.

A motion was passed to accept the 2008 budget proposal as printed.

The first reading of proposed change in By-Laws was read and is as follows:

*Pursuant to Article XII of the constitution and by-laws of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon, the following amendment is offered for consideration of the general membership assembled:*

*(b) Section (b) of Article V shall be changed to wit: Dues of members shall be annually collected from club members by the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December of each year. Dues will become delinquent if not paid by the end of February of the following year. Members will be dropped from the club roster until dues are paid. Members that join mid-year will pay pro rated dues.*

### Board of Directors Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

John Graf WA6L made a presentation called Contesting 101; the slides are viewable on the website as a pdf file.

The Silent Auction was a 150W 10-80M amp donated by Ken Cohen, KI6HRH. It was won by N6OPH for \$30.

The Counterpoise is now available mainly on the web or by e-mail – 15 were mailed as hard copies – anyone else who needs it by regular mail contact Ann, KC6TBG. Now that it's mainly on the web, size is not an issue so the Counterpoise will be 16 pages. Anyone who wants to submit a column, feel free to submit them to the editor as there is plenty of space and are strongly encouraged to do so.

**Public Relations:** The club will have a booth for 4 hours at Del Mar fair. In May the program will be to build the wooden keys to give to the kids at the fair. We expect to need about 1000 keys.

**VP:** Steve, KO4QT announced that there will be a T-shirt contest for Field Day again this year – 3 colors +

white are allowed. All are encouraged to submit their designs.

Steve talked to manager at the camp for Field Day – the other group that had been coming during our weekend has been canceled so we will be there on our own. There are 2 new cabins – bathroom, sink and bed or two - \$65/night. Also, there are dorm rooms - \$20/night for the room (various numbers of beds/room).

Next month's meeting program will be ED, AI60 and Dan, N6ERD on PSK-31 and how to get on the air using Handi-talkies or other FM rigs (i.e., many tech's first radios).

Ken, KI6HRH suggested it would be nice to video tape the programs (such as today's on contesting) to make them available for people who can't make the meeting or as an elmering resource as new members join the club. Paul, KC6QLS volunteered to bring video equipment next month as long as someone would run it.

**Affiliated Club Report:** There is a proposal before SANDARC requiring each club to vote directing their delegates to approve/disapprove regarding: Donation of license manuals to libraries – \$1000 was approved to donate technician manuals to libraries around the county last year.

They want to do the same for general and extra class manuals this year - \$2000 total - \$1000 for general, \$1000 for extra.

The membership voted to direct our SANDARC delegates to vote in favor of the proposal at the next SANDARC meeting.

Mike, N6OPH commented that many people do not understand what SANDARC does, For instance, they don't know that SANDARC is responsible for putting on the 2010 convention in San Diego. It takes considerable money to reserve the convention site with favorable terms. He further stated that SANDARC needs to know what people want, tell the club representative so they can take it to SANDARC or show up yourselves. For instance the Amateur Radio Roundup could be revived, etc... SANDARC can't think of all of the ideas, they need ideas from club members. SANDARC also runs the amateur radio license testing.

**Membership Report:** A new roster is available with 180 members current. For anyone who has lapsed, contact Ann, KC6TBG to become current.

**Education:** Mike, N6OPH is currently running a Technician class, and Gordon Shackleford will start a general class in late March or early April. No other classes will be held until after Field Day and then August or September will start an Extra class again taught by Gordon. Around

Continued Page 15



## From The Vice President KO4QT Steve



Another Yuma Hamfest has come and gone. In size, it can't compete with the ARRL Southwestern Conventions, but they did a pretty good job of putting together a lineup of forum's to attend; Navy/Marine Corps MARS and Laser in Amateur Radio to name a couple. It seems to me that the turn out was a little better this year than last too and I'm looking forward to going again next year.

Have you heard other HAM's talking about PSK and you think to yourself...what in the world is PSK? If so, our March meeting is one you won't want to miss. Ed-AI6O and Dan-N6ERD will be setting up a couple PSK stations and demonstrating how easy it is to hook your computer to your radio. You'll even be able to hold a short QSO by typing from one station to the other.

As for Field Day, I still need to hear from those of you who will be bringing radios, power supplies, etc. We also still have dorm rooms and cabins available. For reservations, either call or email me at: (619)733-2320 or [ko4qt@hotmail.com](mailto:ko4qt@hotmail.com)

73's for now

Steve KO4QT



### WA6BGS Nets

Mike Oberbauer:	KG6TDP	Net Manger
Mike Oberbauer:	KG6TDP	Net Controller
Frito	N6WKB	Wide Open Nets
Ed Felter	AI6O	WAMO/D

### WAMO NETS:

Wednesday and Saturday Nights  
8:00 pm local time 7:30 "Checkins"

### Tuesday Night Rag Chew net:

8:00 pm

Nets held on club repeaters

WA6BGS Repeaters

RX 147.420 (146.475) 107.2 PL

RX 224.080 – 107.2 PL

RX 445.900 – 107.2 PL

Don't miss it. All members welcome.

### New WAMO/D Net

ARCEC, San Diego Digital VHF Net

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Day: Thurs. "Except 2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs. of the month"

Mode: PSK31

Frequency: 50.290 MHz. and a QSY to 144.144 MHz

This is an open net and all are invited. Early check-ins will be taken. Hope to see you on the waterfall!

WAMO means Worked All Members Only. The purpose of WAMO is to encourage people to people communication between club members and to publicize the name of the club among fellow amateurs.


## Calendar of Events March 2008

Mar	1:	Swap Meet, Santee Drive In, 6:30 am
Mar	1:	T-Hunt, Grossmont College lot, 6:00 pm
Mar	4:	Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
Mar	6:	SDDVHF PSK Net 8 PM 20.290 MHz
Mar	13:	General Meeting, 7:00 pm
Mar	15:	Swap Meet, Santee Drive In, 6:30 am
Mar	15:	T-Hunt, Grossmont College lot, 6:00 pm
Mar	18:	Counterpoise Dead Line
Mar	20:	SDDVHF PSK Net 8 PM 20.290 MHz
Mar	23:	Easter Sunday
Mar	27:	SDDVHF PSK Net 8 PM 20.290 MHz

### Upcoming Event Dates

Field Day 2008, Del Mar Fair, Open House FS,  
Mother Goose Parade

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5375 Kearny Villa Road  
San Diego, CA 92123  
(858) 560-4900 or 1-800-854-6046

The Counterpoise is also online in FULL COLOR. Check it out and the club's website at: [www.wa6bgs.org](http://www.wa6bgs.org)

Get your advanced copy by e-mail. I will send it out in .PDF format the night it goes to print. E-mail me and let me know that you would like a copy. Size of file may be up to 1.5 mb at times.

## Change of Address

### Moving?

Do not miss an issue of the Counterpoise. Fill out the Change of address form below.

Call \_\_\_\_\_ WAMO# \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
New Address:  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send to Membership Chairperson:  
A.R.C.E.C./ P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

### ARCEC Membership Application

1. Amateur Call Sign	2. Class of License
3. First Name	4. Last Name
5. Street Address	6. City, State, Zip+4
7. Home Phone	8. Work Phone
May we list: Y N	
9. DOB	10. e-mail
11. ARRL Member Yes no	12. ARES Member Yes No
13. RACES Member Yes No	14. Sponsored by: or Family Member

Return this form with check made payable to the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon or ARCEC for new or renewal membership. Annual Dues \$18.00 for Individual, \$30.00 for family. New members add \$5.00 per member. Include your call on Check. Mail to  
**Membership Chairperson**  
A.R.C.E.C, P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

New ( ) or Renewal ( )	WAMO Number
Certificate Issued	Dues from _____ To _____
Paid Cash ( )	Check No.
Check ( )	Date Paid:

### Computer Roster Available

Want the roster sent to you via e-mail? Send an e-mail to Ann Rios KC6TBG, and she will send you the database back as an attachment. She uses Excel, but may be able to convert to various formats if asked. Send your request to 619-593-9445 or KC6TBG@cox.net

# FUN PAGE

## Birthday

March	2	KF6KYX	Bobby	Morris
March	5	KS6L	Forrest	Hogue
March	9	AE6AV	Larry	Plummer
March	12	N9EPY	Roger	Coppock
March	15	KG6SDK	Walter	Buck
March	16	W3ALL	Arthur	Leveille
March	17	KG6NDS	Jim	Culligan
March	17	W6DEL	David	Lamb
March	19	WZ6K	Glenn	Boeck
March	20	WB6FWS	Dan	Floyd
March	22	W6INI	Art	Smith (L)
March	23	KF6MPB	Joni	Cranmore
March	24	K6PFC	Paul	Cote
March	25	KI6IEL	Raymond	Addington
March	26	K6KG	Kerry	Kohl
March	27	KG6NDX	Don	Compton
March	27	KI6GZK	Don	Dodson
March	28	WD6AXD	Frank	Sprinkle
March	31	KG6EVA	Robert	Daily
March		K6CA	Tim	Hoy
March			Mary Lee	Mansfield

## Brain Thinkers

1= G. L for M.      1 Giant Leap for Mankind

2= N. in a D.      2 Nickels in a Dime

4= S. in a D. of C. 4 Suits in a Deck of Cards

----- This Months -----

2=N. in a D.

36= I. on a Y. S.

755= H. runs H. by H. A.

## Word Search

A N T E N N A P O Z X U P T S J  
W U N W K J S W K W J W X Q W F  
H Z C O M P U T E R O H E T U X  
K S A T Z T K H O A U N T W S K  
T Q B O J W O Q T D Z O J Q Z E  
P O L K T G S E D I G I T A L S  
G W E E R A W T F O S T T H P G  
J X F T O Z T J P H W C J T O T E  
K E P U P O W E R G S E O G U O  
G P J T H Z P J W E Z N W T E S  
R S T Q E K S Q U Q U N K P K U  
O K S F O T R A L U U D O M U T W  
Q S W F X E X G X E G C J S G S  
H U O H P S T F P H O U O K J Q  
Z X T M A R G A I D T X F A E X  
O F U J X Q Q K F T G P T G X F  
P J Z Q G K J O Z R T T Y Q L S

- |                                     |                                   |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ANTENNA    | <input type="checkbox"/> MODULAR  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CABLE      | <input type="checkbox"/> PORT     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COAX       | <input type="checkbox"/> POWER    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMPUTER   | <input type="checkbox"/> PSK      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CONNECTION | <input type="checkbox"/> PTT      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DIAGRAM    | <input type="checkbox"/> RADIO    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DIGITAL    | <input type="checkbox"/> RTS      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DTR        | <input type="checkbox"/> RTTY     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FSK        | <input type="checkbox"/> SOFTWARE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JUMPER     | <input type="checkbox"/> TNC      |

## Last Months Word Search

L C K O H Y W S U F W O F Z O A  
P W E R S U P P Y S U H K N  
O A C U W A S R W I E A M X W  
P X S C P H B H Y I O S Y Q S  
Y S O F T Z P I V C H Z N W K N  
A W H P C N Y Z O O Q F E R U N  
S T S X O F C R K W S R H S O A  
S T Q U M W N S R I B E F H W  
U C P V O K P W S H J X W O X O  
J H C W K E Y H V F Q Z N H V R  
O K O Y Z Q J U V Y T H U J V I  
U S I F Y O F Z K E N W O S N  
P V I Q U F O P O K R V A Q I U  
Z S I N O Z S V S U P Z N P S T  
F R E Q U E N S Y S H A R T E P  
W H J S K P Z V Z J P V O Q L S  
Q C Q C Q C E R I W M O B N A R



This month the Spotlight shines on ARCEC's newest Board Member, Richard West, KF6KE, WAMO Number 709, who was elected to the Board this past December. Rich has been a member of the ARCEC for 20 years and brings a wealth of experience to the Board through previous participation in various amateur radio related events such as the Special Olympics, Mother Goose Parades, Bicycle Rallies, Walk-A-Thons, a Fire Camp and the Red Flag Patrol. Recently, Rich has taught several Technician Classes through the Grossmont Adult School, which has been a new and welcome addition to the Grossmont Adult School Curriculum.

Originally from Memphis, Tennessee, Rich was in the Navy for four years, serving in Vietnam (West PAC) for three tours of duty. He worked at North Island Naval Aviation Depot and repaired UHF Transceivers.

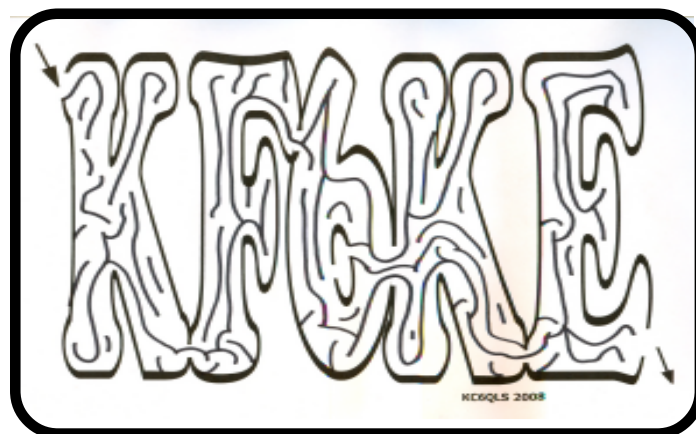
Rich enjoys operating on 2M and 15M. His farthest contact was Japan, and his greatest challenge in amateur radio was passing 13 wpm for his General Class License back when code was required.

In addition to amateur radio, Rich is a reading tutor for Middle School students and enjoys teaching kids beginning chess, both at the middle school and at a branch library. He is an avid motorcyclist, has a Kawasaki and has been riding for 41 years. His longest motorcycle trip was from San Diego to N.E. Georgia.

Rich's message to the next generation is "If you're in a rut, try something new"; words of wisdom for all ages. No longer just a voice on the radio, the spotlight shines on KF6KE. 73!

Tassy KI6FIH

## MAZE

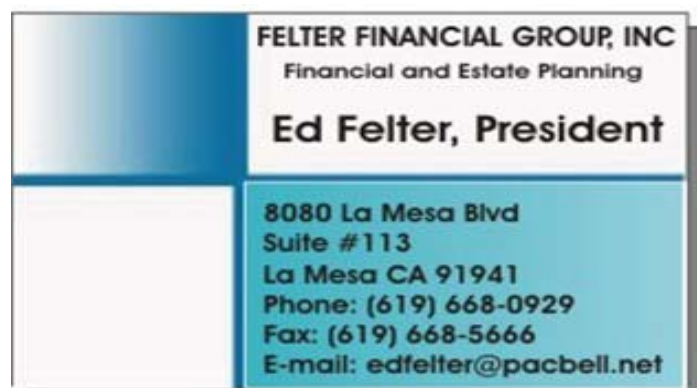


## JOKE

When a wife was asked: What book do you like the best?

She answered: My husband's Check book.

Lisie KI6EEK





## The Editor's Corner KC6QLS Paul



### Editor's Corner

Last month the Counterpoise went online. I believe it went pretty well, but we have some things to work out. The postage will be .58 cents until May 12<sup>th</sup>, and then it will go up by a few cents. If you did not get your Counterpoise by post and you have to receive it that way, please contact me, and I will see that you are added to the list. You can find a printed copy of the newsletter at HRO, the El Cajon Library and now at California Electrons Supply on Johnson Ave in El Cajon.

We will keep the newsletter to about 16 pages. This will from time to time let you write a story or even have your column if you really like to write. We are looking for photos from your station, how you got into Ham Radio and any good stories that might be interesting. We would like to keep them Ham Radio related.

Paul, KC6QLS

### Public Relations

Well, some members went to the Yuma Ham Fest. Steve KO4QT, Pat WA6MHZ and I got on the road at 0410 DARK Hours, stopped in El Centro to fill up with hot coffee and some got a bite to eat. We pulled in to Yuma at 0400 hours, we set up the tables and sold half of the gear in the first 20 minutes. Pat bought a boat anker , and I'm sure he will get it working and share all the details with us. Steve and I packed up and got some chow, gassed up and hit the road back to San Diego. Can't wait till next year!

I have been going down to the Yuma Ham Fest for about three years now. They started it back up after a long down time from the old CB Jamboree back in the 80's. It's not as big as the 80's, but it is growing and some day it will get as big as the CB Jamboree once was.

At May's meeting we will be building the wooden keys for our Kids best "Del Mar" booth. This is the time to get some hands on time for the Club. We will have all the wood cut and supplies ready for assembling the kits for the kid's. We will assemble as many as we can for about 30 to 45 minutes and some may like to work though the rest of the meeting.

73,  
Paul Rios, KC6QLS

# Volunteers Needed

## Up Coming Events

San Diego County Fair "ARCEC Booth"

Please Sign up at the next meeting

## E-Mail

Address for the Counterpoise. Please submit all *Counterpoise* Mail to:

WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net

## Prize Table Needs Help

Thank you for your contributions to the Prize Table! We still need your Support and Help or it may just end up a thing of the past. Please contact: Floyd Lang AF6BC at 303-6711.

## Things to keep in mind

*Get on the El Cajon ARC Reflector*

*To sign up visit:*

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/elcajonarc/>

You will get the latest news about The Club and things going on in the Ham world.

## Quote of the Month

"It is always good When a man has two irons in the fire."

- The Faithful Friends [c. 1608], act 1, sc. ii

For Amateur Radio Public Relations San Diego  
Please visit  
[www.arprsd.org](http://www.arprsd.org)





# Crest Radio Museum

Pat Bunsold, WA6MHZ



## The Hallicrafters S-40 series

Usually, in the column, we hear about very rare old radios. Well, today we will hear all about probably the most COMMON old radio, the Hallicrafters S-40. I had my first S-40 back in 1969 which I used as an IF for a 2 meter converter. The Ameco converter had an output on 14 to 18 Mc which was right in the band of the S-40. I used this for 2 meter Dxing on AM, and it worked very well, though occasionally I would hear bleed thru of actual 20 meter Hams and would be confused into thinking they were on 2 meters! I worked something like 8 states on 2 meter AM back in those days, and stretched my DX to around 400 miles. That was big time DX for a Tech on 2 meters back then!

The S-40 came out around the end of WW2, 1946, and had mostly the black metal tubes of the war in them. It covered the Broadcast band up to around 43 Megs in 4 bands with a bandspread and BFO. Not particularly sensitive or selective, but it worked. A lot better than the S-38s!! The S-40s had a yellowish dial, and when the S-40A came out, it changed to green. The S-40B was made in the 50s and it was also green. Little difference in the actual circuitry, but the Speaker grill was changed in the S-40B to just holes in the panel instead of the shiny metal grill of the previous two. I have a S-40 from long ago in the home museum, and picked up a S-40B at the TRW swapmeet a few months back for \$10. My S-40A came from our Club prize table at the January meeting. In the pic #1, you can see the S-40A on top of the S-40B in the West Wing (Work QTH) museum.

The S-40A from the club table had a bad power cord on it and was missing 2 tubes, a 6H6 and a 6SG7 which I had in my junk box. It also had a broken dial cord and the wires clipped going to the speaker. So it was a good restoration project for a rainy day. I had to completely disassemble the front panel to restring the dial cord on the bandspread, which someone had tried to do with thread. Dial cords need to be a waxed

thread to keep from slipping, and is a special material. I have a whole spool of it, a lifetime supply. Any members who need their old rigs restrung should contact me and we will get you fixed up with a new dialcord lashup. I have most of the stringing diagrams or it can be figured out. Next, I found a suitable power cord cut off from an old radio and connected it up. Bringing it up slowly on a variac (I chose that method instead of the better Reforming method I should use), the radio worked fine. I calibrated it carefully and cleaned it meticulously, so now it is in perfect operating condition with no hum. The restored radio is a perfect match for the S-40B (Which needs a new Main tuning knob) and now I need to bring the original S-40 from home to have all three together. The 2nd pic shows a RIGPIX pic of a S-40.

You will undoubtedly come across a S-40 something in your travels around swapmeets and flea markets, as they must have made millions of them. Most are still in operation and are easy to keep running. And they make excellent SWL receivers, but are kind of numb in the high frequencies. 73!

Pat Bunsold WA6MHZ

Curator Crest Radio Museum



# *Chicken Noodle Soup for the Ham Radio Operator's Soul*

**"The ARRL Announces  
"Logbook of Your Life®"**

*Turmoil and change have shaken the ranks of our hobby in recent years. Controversy over incentive licensing, the role of the code, and concern over the dwindling ranks of our hobby have caused angst and sown the seeds of division among hams, young and old. Now, with the spring of renewal in Cycle 24 upon us, it is time for a healing catharsis for our hobby, with "Chicken Noodle Soup for the Ham Radio Operator's Soul".*

In another innovative development out of League headquarters in Newington, Connecticut, a product for a technology-hungry Amateur Radio hobby. "Logbook of Your Life®" Described by QST Editor David Sleeper K1ZZZ, the "Logbook" is described as a real-time, web-based "Newington Journal", incorporating actual log entries, posted comments, photos and video snippets into an on-line journey down memory lane. The target market of "Logbook" is a Ham population now in the twilight of their Ham Radio careers. "Logbook" is an "emotionally safe radio space" utilizing a "convergence" of operating pleasure, Ham friendships, and emotional connections from around the world.

"Logbook" validates the close, kindred-spirit bond between man and machine, with moving testimonials and memorials to equipment now long-past. As visitors to "Logbook of Your Life®" peruse the extensive "log pages" or "radioblogs", posted by acknowledged celebrities and personalities of various fields and modes of our hobby, strains of the Barbara Streisand song "The Way We Were" drifts from the "Logbook of Your Life®" computer of the visiting Ham and provides a backdrop to decades of Amateur Radio bonding and shared experience.

*Mem'ries,  
Light the corners of my mind  
Misty water colored memories  
Of the way we were  
Scattered pictures,  
Of the smiles we left behind  
Smiles we gave to one another  
For the way we were...*

Writes one "Logbook" entrant: "Willie, my Redwood 160 'sugar' digital HF transceiver. You were my first solid-state love. Together, we fought QRM and QRN. We spent hours and hours together, through sunrise and sunset. Then one fateful day, that flock of Grackles landed on our long wire. I keyed the transmit switch and blew your finals. Farewell old friend."

"Logbook of Your Life®" also validates the international bond, the worldly brotherhood of Amateur Radio, where friends from across the globe post tributes on one another's "sites". "Imbudgludugue, dude. You were the best" writes one North American Ham to another Ham DX friend.

Snippets of QSOs featured in a special "My Band" segment. "You were on 3525 kHz and I was there" reads one entry, followed by a brief CW exchange reserved for the conclusion of QSOs - "dit-dit" and "dit-dit" a warm endpoint to an on-air CW exchange. Another reads "Winston, you were my first CW contact on 40. Remember that time we talked, then the international broadcasters showed up and scared us off?" Previous contest adversaries pay tribute to one another or reminisce about long-lost colleagues. "Thanks for the 599 in the 'CQ DX Worldwide CW Weekend', that October. Man, I dug it. You touched me." And another; "We were split/split on 14.125 that fateful October day. Then the Russian Woodpecker showed up and blew our QSO to smithereens. That was so wrong."

## Chicken Noodle Soup Continued

A "logmaster" is assigned to the virtual community of *"Logbook of Your Life®"* scanning the entries for disparaging or inappropriate comments. Special "hack" technology software filters spot comments like; *"If it weren't for the shallow water table at that QTH of yours, you'd be nothing but a two-meter weenie"*. Comments like these are quickly and efficiently identified and changed to a more emotionally warm tone such as *"Your accomplishments are deserving of some sort of special plaque."* and *"I can't ever remember hearing you operate on VHF."* In addition, the sender of the original off-color remark is not allowed to re-enter the *"Logbook of Your Life®"* space until an appropriate cooling-off period.

Not wishing to pass up an opportunity to earn additional "non-dues revenue", the ARRL has offers Hams the opportunity to sponsor segments of the *"Logbook of Your Life®"* experience. For example, the *"Voltage Loop Equation Corner"* is a special Ham "e-alcove" or "e-refuge" where Hams can seek solace and re-live Ham memories. This particular alcove is sponsored by the *"Kirchhoff Voltage Law Foundation"*, a non-profit 501C (3) dedicated to the memory of German physicist Gustav R. Kirchhoff. Kirchhoff is known in Ham circles for his statement of basic laws of behavior of current and voltage. Although Kirchhoff originally authored his now-famous laws in 1847, the *"Kirchhoff Voltage Law Foundation"* has recently expanded it's involvement in Ham-related enterprises to include legal representation on behalf of Hams involved in CC&R disputes and motor vehicle accidents involving automobiles with Ham Radio antennas.

*Editor's note: Chicken Noodle Soup readers are reminded they do not have to be involved in a lawsuit to visit "Logbook of Your Life®".*

Morris AZ6CW

## Club Photos



John speaking at the meeting



Thanks Ken for the Silent Auction



The Prize Table!



## Amateur Radio At Large

From Rich N6NKJ



Hello all,

What a great meeting we had in February. John Graf, WA6L, put on a great program, and I enjoyed it very much. Thank you John. It is good to see our members taking an interest in our club! I only wish more people would stay for the second part of our club's meeting which is the business part of the meetings. It is here where you, the members, get to vote on items that are vital to our club.

Last Saturday, February 23, Paul Rios, KC6QLS, Bob Boehme, W6RHV, and Rich Beisigl, N6NKJ, started installing the new equipment at CAL FIRE. We were able to put the new equipment cabinet together, set up the radios, and we started to assemble the antennas.

On March 1st, we went back out to finish assembling the antennas, installing the antennas, and running new coax. When Bob, W6RHV and I took a good look at the old coax outside the building, we were amazed that it was still working as well as it has been. It is RG-8 coax, and it looked like it had been up since the founding of the ARRL. We are now using Belden 9913 coax, so our signal and SWR should much better and lower.

Bob, W6RHV; Pat, WA6MHZ; Len, W5WFW; Steve, KO4QT, Paul, KC6QLS and I finished the job. After we get everything installed and tested, we will have a dedication ceremony for the new radio room, and we will be asking members of all the different Amateur radio groups who are involved with the Red Flag Program, to come out and be part of the dedication. We will also be asking others as well to be part of this ceremony.

While Paul, Bob and I were out at CAL FIRE, Channel 8 News came out and did a short piece on us. The interviews were much longer than what 8 News ran; that's how things go.

Wildland Fire Safety Training is scheduled for April 12th, from 9 am to around 3 or 4 pm. The meeting place is still not set, but I hope to have a site chosen soon. If you want to take this training, I suggest you sign up at the next meeting or e-mail me at [rbeisigl@csst.net](mailto:rbeisigl@csst.net). This training is

being offered to A.R.C.E.C., R.A.C.E.S, REACT, the Red Cross and State Humane Officers.

So again, if you want to take this class, let me know soon because seating may be limited.

Well, that does it for another month, but as always, please remember our brave men and women of our armed forces, who are at this moment, in harms way.

Enjoy life, laugh a lot, smile a lot, and be happy.

Rich, N6NK

## Membership Report

New Member:

Art Lopez, KI6NHK, WAMO # 1750

Thanks for renewing, and welcome to all new members.

Ann, KC6TBG



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## CAL Fire Photos



**The Radios in the Cabinet**



**KC6QLS putting ends on the  
power cables**



**Two New 6M 70 Cm and 2 M  
Antennas**



**KO4QT Drilling the hole  
for the Coax**

## Yuma Ham Fest Photos



**Steve, KO4QT and Pat, WA6MHZ  
at the YUMA Hamfest**



**Steve and Pat talking about the  
Radios with Tubes?**



**Paul, KC6QLS after selling 1/2 of is  
stuff in the first 30 minutes**



**Look someone from San Diego. Matt  
was just down two spots to our left.  
Now, he had a lot of stuff to sell.**

## Februarymeeting Minutes Continued

the county there are other classes provided by other clubs and/or SANDARC; for information on these contact Steve Early [ad6vi@cox.net](mailto:ad6vi@cox.net).

The May meeting will feature a talk on weather spotting. In addition there will be a training on Skywarn at the Bostonia Rec Center; it will be a 2 hour class.

Rich, N6NKJ discussed Wildland Fire Safety Training saying it needs to be taken every two years. It is a 4-6 hour class (with break for lunch on your own) on fire safety training April 12 in conjunction with ARES. It is open to all amateur radio operators interested in the VIP Red Flag Program. The class will start at 9am. There was a signup sheet in back for volunteers to help setup equipment at CalFire on Saturday. Contact Rich regarding available - towers and antennas 1 heavy duty tower, 1 medium duty tower – both 35' plus beam antennas for \$500.

**Health And Welfare Report:** Flo, the wife of K6CR Cliff Richardson, passed on Saturday. Michael Martak had a seizure but is doing better. K6QK, Harvey Hiller passed Tuesday from a massive heart attack. K6HLU, EUGENE E. JOHNSON, also passed away last night after 93 years.

The next meeting will be Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup>..

Respectfully submitted,  
Dan Severance, N6ERD  
Secretary  
Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon



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## Odds & Ends

Last week I got a letter in the mail from Duluth, Minnesota. It reads, "Hi Paul: Enclosed is a check as a contribution to the club in Harley's memory. It can be used as dues, etc. I also enjoy reading the Counterpoise paper. I always feel a bond with Harley as I read it and it's fun to read about the friends we made while in La Mesa. It's hard to believe it's been a year since Harley passed away. I truly miss him. Take care! Dorothy."

As you will recall, Dorothy is Harleys' sister, and it was a pleasure to meet her and all the rest of the family. It's sad it took the passing of one of our founding members to meet them. I know in my heart I'm very happy to have met them. I can say it feels like I have family in Duluth, Minnesota, and Harley is missed. Thank you for your kind donation.

Last month we had the passing of K6CR Cliff Richardson who is also one of our founding members. I hope they all look down on us and smile from time to time. We also lost a Ham that had one of the best Amateur Radio web sites, Rod Dinkins, AC6V. His web site is [www.AC6V.com](http://www.AC6V.com).

73  
Paul KC6QLS

### ARCEC Reflector

For those of you who may not be aware, the ARCEC has had a Reflector for sometime, and it is available for all club members to join and use in a friendly, positive and cordial fashion at each member's discretion. There is no moderator and it is available for all members to use to post events, classes, activities, amateur radio for sale and wanted items, and for other amateur radio related communication. While the Reflector is available for all to use, please remember that all Official ARCEC communication is posted in the ARCEC General Membership Meeting Minutes located in the Counterpoise Newsletter each month, and the opinions expressed on the Reflector are solely that of the individual(s) and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). To join the Reflector, go to [www.wa6bgs.org](http://www.wa6bgs.org) and click on the Join Yahoo Group Now.



Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon  
P.O. Box 50  
El Cajon, CA 92022



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### Is your membership ready to expire?

Take a look on your mailing label. Is the expiration date in 2007? Does it say EXPIRED? That means it's time to mail in your yearly dues. Please take time to fill out the membership application in this newsletter, and mail it in, or bring it to the next meeting.

**Next Class  
General Class  
March 18, 2008**

**Please Contact:  
Mike Maston  
N6OPH  
(619) 296-9067**

**Please Visit Our Website at  
[www.WA6BGS.org](http://www.WA6BGS.org)**

### VEC Testing Sites

1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday:	El Cajon 10:00 am First Lutheran Church of EC 867 South Lincoln Ave.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday:	Carlsbad 9:30 am Carlsbad Safety Center Orion Way Carlsbad
3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday:	North Park 10:00 am North Park Recreation Center 4044 Idaho Street San Diego
4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday:	Chula Vista 8:30 am Fire Station #7 1640 Santa Venetia Chula Vista
5 <sup>th</sup> or last Saturday:	Escondido 9:00 am LDS Church 1917 East Washington St.

To make advance reservations or to find out more info from the site captain, please call 465-EXAM (3926)

